

# President-Elect

One-year term, with a three-year commitment to the Board of Directors; serves as a member of The Board, presides in the absence of the President, and becomes President for 2011-2012; represents NCSHLA at the spring or fall meeting of the Council of State Association Presidents (CSAP).

## **Kathleen T. Cox, Ph.D, CCC-SLP**

Associate Professor, East Carolina University, Greenville

### Prior Service

Member since 1996

Chair of NCSHLA Planning Committee 2006-2009

Convention Committees – 1999, 2001, 2009

Presented sessions at numerous Spring Conventions and Fall Conferences

University Caucus Leader 2006, 2007

Awards

Honors of the Association, NCSHLA, 2007

## **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

A common trend in university life right now is the assessment of enrollment growth. Universities want to figure out how to serve more students and of course, to serve well the students they have already enrolled. My life right now as a university faculty member is filled with enrollment growth conversations. Similarly, part of my vision is for NCSHLA to also focus on enrollment growth (i.e., increasing membership) in the upcoming years. With increased membership NCSHLA will see many benefits. We will have larger representation of the SLPs and Audiologists in the state; when the membership is polled for opinions or votes, we will know that we are reaching more professionals. NCSHLA will have an increased number of people who could volunteer for the various service roles that keep NCSHLA running! Can you imagine a NCSHLA election with three or four candidates for each seat on the Board? I can envision it and if we grow our membership, it can become a reality! With increased membership we will have a larger pool of clinicians to help our Executive Director Peyton Maynard lobby our state politicians for the changes we want in state legislation. Advocacy is such a critical task for our profession in the upcoming years. The more NCSHLA members we have, the more we will have people who are willing to advocate for our needs locally, state-wide, and even nationally.

More NCSHLA members would enable our current projects to thrive – can you envision a Spring Convention committee with so many volunteers that people have to be turned away? Can you see a professional affairs committee so full of members that several small task forces can be developed to address individual issues? More members would mean our NCSHLA email listservs would light up the cyberspace with daily communications between people across the entire state. With more members, there exists new opportunities for NCSHLA to develop new programs and to overcome the challenges that face our professions and our professionals every day.

My vision to find new members includes developing a grassroots network of NCSHLA members who will find the SLPs and Audiologists who are not members and ask them simply, “why not?” I envision myself and groups of other enthusiastic NCSHLA

members visiting groups of non-member professionals to ask them “If NCSHLA is not serving your needs, what can we do to meet those needs? What would bring you to NCSHLA?” Through this same mechanism, I would like to also meet with groups of current members and ask, as Dr. Phil says, “How’s it working for you?” Can you envision several NCSHLA Board members coming to your workplace for an afternoon to ask NCSHLA members “How are we doing and can we do better? How? Will you help?” By developing a grassroots network of NCSHLA members who are willing to address these questions to other NCSHLA members and non-members, we will have the chance to grow NCSHLA, not only in membership numbers, but in the ways that we serve our members.

My vision for NCSHLA is to help the organization maintain its outstanding reputation as a great provider of CEUs, strong advocate for professional issues with the legislation and DPI, and a professional resource for colleague-to-colleague networking. As a president-elect and then president, I would want to continue the great work that has been done and ensure that the systems we have developed are able to continue to prosper. My vision includes expanding all of the current roles in the ways the membership tell us they want things to grow. And this will all be possible if we can increase the size of our membership and continue to serve the needs of our current members, as well.

**Tracie Rice, AuD, CCC-A**

Assistant Professor, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee

Prior Service

Audiology Editor of the Communiqué 2009-2010

Planning Committee, member

2010 Spring Convention Committee

**What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

NCSHLA is a fabulous organization that has done great things for the speech language pathologists and audiologists in our state! My vision for NCSHLA is to reach farther and influence more. I think that we will continue to build on the principal that advocacy is vital for our colleagues, our clients and others throughout North Carolina and beyond. This past year we had a really big impact on legislative changes to proposed Medicaid cuts. By continuing to network and work together we can take our organization and profession to a new level. I look forward to being involved with an organization that touches so many lives and makes a difference in our world!

# Board Member-at-Large

Two-year terms; serve as members of the Board of Directors to conduct its business matters, receive and act on committee reports, and exercise general management of the Association.

## **Donna M. Brown, M.S. CCC-SLP**

Clinical Professor of Education, Appalachian State University

Prior Service: NCSHLA Board, President of NCSHLA, Convention Chair, Convention committee, Member NCASSPA--President, secretary, Caucus Leader, Current Planning committee chair.

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

I have been involved with NCSHLA for thirty years in one form or another. All the way from Convention Committee work to doing a convention to becoming President of the organization in 1998-99. I have continued to be involved over the years on various committees with NCSHLA and its affiliate NCASSPA.

I have watched it grow over the years into a national presence, one that is respected and copied for its policies and organization and its standing with ASHA and other national counterparts. I have been proud to be a part of this growth and want to continue to be.

The years ahead will present its problems but we can make a difference. We need to stay strong in membership and advocacy for the professional needs of our brothers and sisters and for the association in general.

## **Lisa Hayes Forster, M.A., CCC-SLP**

Clinical Associate Professor  
Appalachian State University

Prior Service:

Professional Affairs Committee, 2009 – present

MICS representative, 2009 – present

Chair of Nominations, 2007-2008

Chair of volunteers for Convention 2007

Vice-chair of Convention 2004-2005

Chair of Volunteers for Convention 2003-2004

Served on numerous convention committees and volunteered at conferences since 1994.

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

NCSHLA is an outstanding state organization that provides both information and advocacy for our members and the clients and communities that we serve. NCSHLA will continue to be strong force in the field of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology due to our members. Therefore, our membership and participation must remain strong so that we can continue to address the issues that affect our profession.

## **Tomma S. Hargraves, MS, CCC-SLP**

Lead Speech-Language Pathologist, Wake County Public Schools

### Prior Service

State Education Advocacy Leader (ASHA) – 2009 - present

Secretary of NCSHLA – 2006-2008

Public Schools Caucus Leader – 2009

Committee member: Professional Affairs – 2009

Convention Committee Member or Chair: Volunteers, Local Arrangements, Registration (several years)

NCASSPA Treasurer – 2003 – 2006

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

As I planned to move to North Carolina in 1996, one of the first contacts I made was the North Carolina Speech, Hearing and Language Association. From that time on, I've been a strong supporter of this association. Up till that time, I had only been a member of other state associations without much, if any, involvement.

I believe NCSHLA will remain a strong force in the state of North Carolina as long as we can stay focused on the critical areas of need. Of course, the current economic situation has impacted all of us in different ways, depending on the area of our field in which we are involved. I have seen this association rally to embrace advocacy for continuous and appropriate funding by the state. I have seen this association work hard to maintain the highly qualified status of SLP and Audiology providers. I have seen this association develop realistic goals and achieve those goals by tireless volunteers.

My greatest hope for NCSHLA is that it will continue to bring in the best and brightest into the field and membership. NCSHLA should be able to sell itself by all the good things it has done, but continue the enthusiasm amidst some difficult times.

All of this can be achieved by advocacy... let's continue to be our own advocates and we can go far!

### **Lori J. Kincannon, M.S., CCC-SLP**

Speech-Language Pathologist, Pitt County Schools, Greenville, NC

### Prior Service:

NCSHLA Member since 2003

Volunteer, Spring, 2006, Convention

Member, Convention Committee, 2009

Member, Honors and Recognition Committee, 2007-current

SLP Vice-Chair, Fall Conference Committee, 2007-2008

School Caucus Co-Leader, 2009

NCASSPA Member since 2005

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

I became a member of NCSHLA shortly after moving to North Carolina from Florida seven years ago. Since then, I have learned that there is no better way to meet and network with colleagues in our own and related disciplines, to obtain CEUs at a reasonable cost, and to have a voice in the professional issues that concern us. My vision for NCSHLA is to see continued growth in new membership, especially students and new graduates. I believe that mentoring and encouragement of the newer and younger members of NCSHLA by our wonderfully, well-seasoned and long-time members will

help bring new and creative ideas to the organization, keeping it in the forefront of other state organizations. In addition, I believe that our Professional and Practice Caucuses are the best way for our members to voice their concerns and see our Board at work. Therefore, I would like to see increased participation in all of the Professional and Practice Caucus meetings during our Spring Convention so that the Board can continue to be aware of and address the issues and concerns specific to each of our professional settings.

## **Chair of Nominations Committee**

One-year term; chairs the committee that prepares a slate of nominees for Association offices, conducts the election of officers at the Annual Business Meeting, and prepares a list of qualified NCSHLA members for submittal to the Governor's Office as potential appointees to boards and commissions.

### **Laura Harris Trogdon, M.S., CCC-SLP**

Lead Speech Pathologist, Asheboro City Schools  
MS, CCC-SLP; NC License; DPI License

Prior Service: Active Member

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

I believe that the focus of NCSHLA is to promote the professional practice of communication disorders as well as advocate for its members. As an organization we have the ability to impact the lives of communicatively impaired individuals. On a national and local level, healthcare organizations will be changing in the near future. As an organization we need to be ready for these changes. We will need to unite to ensure that speech, language, and hearing services continue to be available to all individuals. It will be imperative for the nominating committee to choose individuals from our membership who will support and empower our members as well those individuals we serve.

### **Jennifer P. Van Gilder, MA, CCC-SLP**

Speech-Language Pathologist  
Associate Clinical Professor  
Appalachian State University  
Communication Disorders Program

#### **Prior Service:**

##### **Professional:**

Treasurer, North Carolina Association of Supervisors in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology, January 2007 to present

Volunteer, NCSHLA Convention, Raleigh, NC, March 2007

Volunteer – Audio-Visual Coordinator, NCSHLA Convention, Asheville, NC, April, 2008

ASHA Schools Conference 2008, Poster Session submission reviewer, Spring, 2008

##### **ASU Service:**

##### **University Level:**

Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Committee, Chair, 2005-present

College Level:  
Faculty Development Committee, 2007-2010  
Diversity Committee, 2004-2007

Department/Program Level:  
Communication Disorders Program Faculty Committee, 1999-present  
Clinical Issues Committee, 1999-present  
Social Committee, 1999-present  
Continuing Education, 2004-2007  
Curriculum Committee, 2003-2006  
Strategic Planning, 2006-2007

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

It is important for the members of NCSHLA to be well represented in the various offices of the organization. The Nominations Committee should strive to solicit nominees for these offices from a variety of settings from across the state in SLP and AUD in order to fully and fairly represent the diverse needs of our profession.

## **Chair of Finance Committee**

Two-year term; chairs the committee which oversees the fiscal management of the Association, including the development of an annual budget, monthly review of expenses and assessment of dues and other revenue sources and investment opportunities; works with the Central Office on materials for use in preparing annual financial statements and tax returns.

### **Beth B. Griffin, MS, CCC-SLP**

Speech Pathologist and Clinical Supervisor – Cheshire Center

#### Prior Service:

Board Member at Large of NCSHLA

Member of convention committee

Chair – Call for Papers committee

Member of NCASSPA and recipient of the 2009 Supervisor of the Year Award

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

NCSHLA has the unique opportunity to support the professions of speech pathology and audiology in this difficult financial time like never before. With changes expected in health care, the political climate and funding streams, NCSHLA must continue to advocate for the profession and the patients we serve to insure that quality services are widely available and affordable. It is only through NCSHLA that our collective voice can be heard.

The finance committee of NCSHLA has the responsibility to maintain accurate records of expenditures, formulate a realistic budget and make sure that members are “getting their money worth” from the organization.

### **Rita Thurman, M.S., CCC**

Masters of Science degree from Utah State University in 1977

worked in private clinics and in the public schools in Illinois and

North Carolina.

been working in Private Practice in Raleigh, NC since 1985.

#### Prior Service

NCSHLA Finance Committee 2008-2009

NCSHLA Convention Planning committee 2009-2010

#### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

"I hope to increase awareness and enrollment in membership, which directly affects fiscal stability of the organization and provides SLPs across the state with networking and educational opportunities. I have been a member of four different state organizations and NCSHLA shines among them. We are so lucky to have such a solid state group...it's time to let others know what they are missing. "

## **Vice-Chair of Convention Committee (2011)**

One-year term, with a two-year commitment to the committee; serves on the committee responsible for all aspects of the annual convention; becomes chair for the 2012 convention.

#### **Kristen Cline, MA, CCC-SLP**

Speech-Language Pathologist, Catawba Valley Medical Center, Hickory  
Primary SLP for acute care and the Inpatient Rehabilitation Center

#### Education

Appalachian State University, Boone, NC

Master of Arts in Communication Disorders, 1997

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, 1995

Emphasis on Pre-Speech & Hearing Sciences, Minor in Linguistics

#### Clinical Focus and Program Development at Catawba Valley Medical Center

- Performing FEES studies since 2004
- Special interest in dysphagia, as well as patients with tracheostomy
- Clinical Supervisor for SLP graduate interns yearly
- Supervision of Clinical Fellows
- Oversight of prn speech-language pathology staff
- Development and implementation of dysphagia screening protocol for registered nurses in preparation for applying for Primary Stroke Center Certification.
- Member of Stroke Team, 2009-present
- Member of Process Improvement Team on Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit, 2002-present
- Local and state-wide advocacy for reimbursement for electrical stimulation for dysphagia, 2009
- Member of Stroke Unit Project Team, 2009
- Member of Code Stroke Project Team, 2009-2010

#### Recent Volunteer Work

- Volunteer monthly in 2-year old nursery at Christ United Methodist Church, January 2008-present
- Member of Agape Team at Christ United Methodist Church, January 2008-present
- March of Dimes Walk, 2008 and 2009
- Assisted in providing youth sports physicals for Catawba County Schools, July 2009
- Women's Health Fair at the Hickory Metro Center, September 2009
- Stroke Prevention Booth

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

NCSHLA has been a support to its members and a harbinger for education and leadership for years. We are so fortunate to have such a strong state association in our presence. It will be imperative that we continue to provide education and advocacy where needed for all stakeholders involved (our members, patients, clients, and the public). This can only be achieved through continued leadership, support, and membership. It will be important to continue seeking members who have yet to join NCSHLA by promoting how our organization can support us in doing what we do best and to also maintain our current membership. I believe NCSHLA will continue to be the one to watch amongst state associations.

### **Julia Johnoff, Med , CCC/SLP**

Pediatric Speech Pathologist Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center

#### Prior Service:

Professional Practice Representative of Legislative Council for the Ohio Speech Language Hearing Association 2006 - 2007

President of Northwest Ohio Speech Language Hearing Association 2004 – 2005

Vice President of Northwest Ohio Speech Language Hearing Association 2003- 2004

Member of American Speech Language Hearing Association

Member of NCSHLA

### **What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

NCSHLA should hold paramount the education of their members regarding the changes in the field of Speech Language Pathology. Education of our members regarding service delivery models, advocacy, reimbursement and continuing education help keep this organization a strong force among state organizations.

Recruitment should continue to be a priority for the organization. Current membership is strong and a proven leaders. Future membership can enhance this leadership and make NCSHLA stronger.

NCSHLA needs to continue to provide its members a voice that can collectively be heard throughout the state. Members drive the focus of NCSHLA through the election of strong representatives to hear their voices and implement their objectives for the upcoming year.

The convention provides the opportunity for members to get high quality education to apply to their current and future caseloads. It provides members the opportunity to gather to network with each other and focus on the future objectives of the organization.

**Lisa H. Pruitt MA, CCC-SLP**

Current Position: Speech-language therapist, Autumn Rehab Corporation, Wilkes Senior Village (SNF)

Previous positions: Wilkes County Schools, SLP, Lead SLP; Alexander County Schools SLP; Home Health; Private Contractor

**Prior Service**

Membership and Recognition Committee

Education and Public Information

NCASSPA Convention Liaison

Convention Committee Member, Registration, Placement

**What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

As I ponder the challenge “Advocacy in action”, I am reminded of the reasons that continue my personal involvement and belief in NCSHLA. We have accomplished much, but now have a greater challenge in the midst of our trying economic times. We must join as a collective force representing our profession as the powerhouse we have proven to be throughout the years. We need to hold fast to the driving force that we DO make a difference in the lives we touch each day. What we do matters and we DO have something valuable to share. We must continue to use our organization to share information with each other then branch out to the public. It is only through letting our voices heard that others will have a voice!

Without question, our future presents a challenge, but I have confidence in what we CAN accomplish joining hands striving for the best individually and as a professional group in various work settings. Let’s work together using our diversity to make our organization strong for ourselves and those who depend on us to maximize their communication skills. Rarely do other professions cross the boundaries of health care, preschools, private education, public education, and higher education. We have been given both opportunities and responsibilities to coordinate the needs of our students, patients and each other. To borrow a phrase from the Dunkin’ Donuts “You can do it!” Together, we can!

**SLP Vice-Chair of Fall Conference (2010)**

One-year term, with a two-year commitment to the committee; serves on the committee responsible for all aspects of the annual Fall Hearing and Speech Conference; becomes SLP co-chair for the 2011 conference.

**Laurie Garner, M.S., CCC-SLP**

Rehab Program Manager for Aegis Therapies. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi. She is owner of Advance Speech Therapy in Lenoir, North Carolina. She has provided Speech Therapy services in skilled nursing facilities for over 15 years. She has experience in dysphagia, apraxia, Dysarthria, aphasia and dementia management. She is a member of the NCHSLA, ASHA and Division 13. She has been a clinical instructor for Appalachian State for over 10 years. She is certified in Dementia training, FEES, DPNS, and Vital Stimulation.

**Holly Ann Hanley, M.A., CCC-SLP**

Clinical Coordinator/Instructor Speech Language Pathology Assistant Program  
Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute, Hudson  
M.A., Appalachian State University  
B.S., Appalachian State University

Prior Service

NCSHLA member  
NCSHLA Convention Volunteer

**What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

The field of speech language pathology and audiology represents an ever-changing, multicultural and multigenerational environment. As the state population grows and changes, we, as professionals, must grow and change as well. NCSHLA is a leader in keeping its members up to date on current issues and it gives its members an opportunity to network with one another throughout the state. My vision for NCSHLA is to increase membership involvement by enthusiastically raising awareness of the rewards of membership.

## Secretary

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| Two-year term as a member of the Board of Directors; records and distributes minutes of all official business meetings of the Board and the Association, conducts official correspondence of the Association, and works with the Central Office to maintain all official Association records and policy documents. |
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**Donna Richmond, M.A., CCC-SLP**

Independent Contractor, Wilson County Schools  
Kids R Us Therapy  
ASHA Special Interest Division 16 NC Liaison  
Co-leader, Orange County Schools, 1999-2009

Prior Service

Spring Conference Committee, 2005,2008, 2009, 2010  
Fall Conference Chairperson, 2005  
Education and Public Information chairperson, 2006-2009  
Membership and Recognition Committee 2009-present  
Public School Caucus leader, 2007, 2008 2010

**What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

NCSHLA has been highly respected by other state associations as being a leader. It provides its members the most up to date information concerning all areas of communication disorders. NCSHLA also has been the front runner in letting membership know through email blasts and website the status of issues in the state that affect NCSHLA. Members have “stepped up to the plate” and have communicated their voices to the legislation as well as to the NCSHLA Board on current policies and issues and will continue to do so in the future. We also have listserves available for members to ask questions, provide comments on current issues that affect our profession. We will

continue to face challenges in areas of funding, increased workloads and membership retention. We take on the challenge!!!

We need to continue to work together as an organization to remain strong and to recruit new members to “join the NCSHLA” team. We need to continue to be “daily advocates” for our students, for our profession and for the public, “the consumers of our “top-notch” “state of the art “practices. We continue to grow!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Amy Sherman, M.S., CCC-SLP**

Lead Speech-Language Pathologist, Onslow County Schools

**Prior Experience:**

Speech Pathologist, Pitt County Schools

Pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist, Onslow Memorial Hospital

**What is your vision for NCSHLA?**

In the past two years, I have learned to appreciate and respect the effort put forth by the leadership at NCSHLA. The current economic conditions have threatened our professions and propelled us into roles of advocacy. I believe the leadership at NCSHLA sets a strong example of how teamwork and perseverance can empower an organization at the local, state, and federal levels. My professional vision is to listen and learn from experts in our field who fight the economic and political battles so that we can help those we serve.

## **Nominations Committee**

Wayne Foster  
Timothy Harris  
Bliss Hemric  
Deborah Lassiter  
Gerry McCall  
Shawna Pearce  
Angie Pharr  
Sarah Reid  
Jennifer Robinson  
Mary Ruth Sizer